

Amendment No. 1 to SB1688

Gresham
Signature of Sponsor

AMEND Senate Bill No. 1688

House Bill No. 1970*

by deleting all language after the enacting clause and by substituting instead the following:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-1-201(d), is amended by redesignating subdivision (2) as subdivision (4) and by deleting subdivision (1) in its entirety and substituting instead the following:

(1) Subdivisions (1), (2) and (3) of this subsection shall be known as and may be cited as "The Public School Achievement Flexibility Act".

(2)

(A) Upon application by the LEA for one (1) or more of its schools, the commissioner of education may waive any state board rule or statute that inhibits or hinders the LEA's ability to meet its goals or comply with its mission. However, the commissioner may not waive regulatory or statutory requirements related to:

- (i) Federal and state civil rights;
- (ii) Federal, state and local health and safety;
- (iii) Federal and state public records;
- (iv) Immunizations;
- (v) Possession of weapons on school grounds;
- (vi) Background checks and fingerprinting of personnel;
- (vii) Federal and state special education services;
- (viii) Student due process;
- (ix) Parental rights;
- (x) Federal and state student assessment and accountability; and

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(xi) Open meetings.

(B) Notwithstanding subdivision (A), the commissioner may not waive any statute for a school identified as a priority school as defined by the state's accountability system.

(3) A school for which the commissioner has granted flexibility in operation may establish its own educational model and operate in any manner that the local board and the school's management team agree shall sustain and increase student performance. Each school shall be allowed to innovate and experiment and to challenge existing teaching methodologies with the goal of enhancing student performance.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.